Raw sugar import policy

2507. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to industry experts the current raw sugar import policy is unviable;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government would like to take to tackle such issues to benefit the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Proposal to double the quantum of sugar levy

2508. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to double the quantum of sugar levy from the present level of 2.5 mt;

(b) if so, whether the industry has agreed to entertain such a move on the condition that Government would agree in return to remove restrictions on quantum of sugar that industry can release in market each month; and

(c) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The levy obligation on sugar factories is imposed in terms of percentage on production. The Central Government has-increased the levy obligation on sugar factories from 10% to 20% of production for 2009-10 sugar season.

(b) and (c) During consultations with sugar industry, the Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) and National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCSF), the apex organizations of private and cooperative sugar factories, respectively, requested to remove restrictions on sale of non-levy sugar which the Government has imposed in terms of regulated release mechanism policy. The Government has not acceded to the request of the industry.

Black marketing of essential commodities

2509. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of raids carried out from 2008 onwards to check black-marketing of essential commodities, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the number of wheat, rice, sugar sacks and other essential commodities seized during these raids?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The details of the raids conducted, value of essential commodities seized/confiscated and persons booked for violation of rules under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, during the year 2008 and 2009 (updated upto 30.11.2009) as reported by State Goverments/UT Administrations are given in the Statement-I and II.

Statement-I

Action Taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for the year, 2008 – Information received from States/UTs upto 31.12.2008

Sl.No.	State/Uts	No. of Raids	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons prosecuted	No.of persons convicted	Value of goods confiscated in Rs. Lakh	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	17235	29	6	-	86.12	December
2	Assam	1419	14	19	Nil	2.37	December *
3	Arunachal Pradesh	23	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	November
4	Bihar	16	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	September
5	Chhattisgarh	225	1	32	1	102.03	March
6	Delhi	153	135	119	4	61.7	December
7	Gujarat	31098	20	142	Nil	253.15	December
8	Goa	121	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
9	Haryana	46	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
10	Himachal Pradesh	25634	13	49	Nil	15.52	December $$
11	Jammu & Kashmir	422	376	94	Nil	Nil	September
12	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	April
13	Karnataka	3396	74	1	4	580.95	December
14	Kerala	87305	12	2	Nil	12.98	December

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	Madhya Pradesh	14921	52	107	Nil	405.15	April
16	Maharashtra	2551	3376	2595	Nil	2365.92	December
17	Manipur	99	4	3	3	0.16	December
18	Meghalaya	70	1	2	1	0.05	December
19	Mizoram	61	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.49	July **
20	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
21	Orissa	2001	22	117	Nil	17.51	November
22	Punjab	20632	22	9	4	3.08	November
23	Rajasthan	450	13	170	4	18.12	July
24	Sikkim	1	2	2	Nil	0.01	December -
25	Tamil Nadu	20268	2525	1127	761	683.33	November
26	Tripura	35	12	9	Nil	2.69	December -
27	Uttaranchal						Not Reported
28	Uttar Pradesh	39474	1047	1734	Nil	1410.49	December
29	West Bengal	176	142	5	Nil	58.83	December
30	A & N Islands	291	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Dec.***
31	Chandigarh	6	9	Nil	Nil	2.01	December
32	D & N Haveli	13	2	Nil	Nil	5.49	December
33	Daman & Diu						Not Reported
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
35	Pondicherry	633	81	81	8	7.07	December
	TOTAL	268775	8001	6425	790	6095.22	

* - Except January & February.

** - Except April, May & June.

$$ - Except- October

*** - Except - Sept & October.

Updated as on 31.3.2009

Statement-II

Action Taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for the year - 2009 - Information received from States / UTs upto 31.07.2009 upto 30.11.2009

S.No.	State/Uts	No. of Raids	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons prosecuted	No.of persons convicted	Value of goods confiscated in Rs. Lakh	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	6119	1	Nil	1	102.06	September
2	Assam	2025	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	July
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	July
4	Bihar	4	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	August
5	Chhattisgarh	160	31	12	5	330.95	April
6	Delhi	80	50	67	Nil	Nil	October
7	Gujarat	21281	21	74	Nil	480.72	October
8	Goa	30	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	October
9	Haryana	58	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	July
10	Himachal Pradesh	14946	3	2	Nil	6.28	July
11	Jammu & Kashmir						Not Reported
12	Jharkhand						Not Reported
13	Karnataka	881	39	5	2	22.68	July
14	Kerala	36231	21	2	Nil	26.4	September
15	Madhya Pradesh						Not Reported
16	Maharashtra	1011	1639	1008	Nil	12500.87	August
17	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	September
18	Meghalaya	8	Nil	4	Nil	Nil	September

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19	Mizoram						Not Reported
20	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	August
21	Orissa	12577	7	25	Nil	3.08	September
22	Punjab	65	46	29	21	462.74	September
23	Rajasthan	281	3	62	Nil	36.89	March
24	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil	September
25	Tamil Nadu	13189	3926	1143	4	497.4	October
26	Tripura	5	2	2	Nit	0.31	September
27	Uttaranchal						Not Reported
28	Uttar Pradesh	22315	514	860	Nil	979.93	July
29	West Bengal	94	69	2	Nil	44.89	September *
30	A & N Islands	148	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	October
31	Chandigarh	7	7	Nil	Nil	7.93	August
32	D & N Haveli	3	2	Nil	Nil	0.22	October
33	Daman & Diu						Not Reported
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	October
35	Pondicherry	357	49	54	13	15.12	October
	TOTAL	131875	6436	3351	46	15518.47	

* - Except - May

Updated as on 4.12.2009

Appointment of Board of Directors in FCI

2510. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has appointed or nominated a Board of Directors for the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details of their names, backgrounds and tenure;